

In The Claims:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) An air seeder comprising:
2 a frame;
3 a pair of ground engaging wheels;
4 a first container having a bottom floor, an outer end wall, an opposite inner end
5 wall, and side walls connecting said outer end wall and said opposite inner end wall;
6 a second container having a bottom floor, an outer end wall, an opposite inner
7 end wall, and side walls connecting said outer end wall and said opposite inner end
8 wall;
9 a first and second metering mechanism for distributing particulate material to
10 the ground, said first metering mechanism being located ~~in close proximity~~ adjacent to
11 said second metering mechanism;
12 a trough incorporated into said bottom floor of each of said first and second
13 containers;
14 an auger rotatably mounted in each of said troughs for transporting said
15 particulate material along said corresponding bottom floor to said corresponding
16 metering mechanism; and
17 a motor for rotating each of said respective augers to convey said particulate
18 material to said corresponding metering mechanism, each of said motors being initiated
19 only when required to convey said particulate material to said respective first and
20 second metering mechanisms.
- 1 2. (Original) The air seeder of Claim 1, wherein said floors of said first and second
2 containers define a v-shaped configuration converging at said first and second metering
3 mechanisms, respectively.
- 1 3. (Original) The air seeder of Claim 1, further comprising a fan mechanism and a
2 pair of conveying tubes that pass at least partially internally in at least one of said
3 containers for delivering air to said metering mechanisms.

1 4. (Original) The air seeder of Claim 2, wherein said first and second containers
2 define a double v-shaped configuration to facilitate movement of said particulate
3 material into said auger for conveyance of said particulate material to said first and
4 second metering mechanisms.

1 5. (Original) The air seeder of Claim 4, wherein said troughs are located in a lower
2 apex of each of said v-shaped configurations, each of said troughs having an auger
3 rotatably mounted therein for transporting said particulate material along said floor to
4 said metering mechanism.

1 6. (Original) The air seeder of Claim 1, wherein at least one of said first and
2 second metering mechanisms includes a sensor, and wherein said initiation of said
3 motor occurs when said sensor detects a shortage of said particulate material to be
4 dispensed through said respective first or second metering mechanisms.

1 7. (Original) The air seeder of Claim 1, wherein each of said containers includes
2 an optical sensor to detect a level of particulate material within said respective
3 containers, said initiation of said motor and subsequent rotation of said corresponding
4 augers occurring when one of said optical sensors detects a decreased level of said
5 particulate material in said container.

1 8. (Original) The air seeder of Claim 1, wherein said auger is initiated in response
2 to a sensed lowered torque to effect rotation of said auger as said particulate product
3 drains from said container.

1 9. (New) A planter implement for distributing particulate material to the ground,
2 comprising:
3 a frame mounted on a pair of ground engaging wheels;
4 a first container mounted on the frame, the first container having a bottom floor;
5 a second container mounted on the frame, the second container having a bottom
6 floor;
7 a first metering mechanism and a second metering mechanism, the first metering
8 mechanism located adjacent to the second metering mechanism;
9 a first trough incorporated into the bottom floor of the first container and a
10 second trough incorporated into the bottom floor of the second container; and
11 a first auger rotatably mounted in the first trough of the first container, and a
12 second auger rotatably mounted in the second trough of the second container, the first
13 and second augers for transporting the particulate material along the bottom floors to
14 the corresponding first and second metering mechanisms.

1 10. (New) The planter implement of Claim 9, further including:
2 a motor for rotating each of the respective augers to convey the particulate
3 material to said corresponding metering mechanism.

1 11. (New) The planter implement of Claim 10, wherein each motor is configured to
2 be initiated only when required to convey the particulate material to the respective first
3 and second metering mechanisms.

1 12. (New) The planter implement of Claim 9, wherein said floors of the first and
2 second containers define a v-shaped configuration converging at the first and second
3 metering mechanisms, respectively.

1 13. (New) The planter implement of Claim 9, further comprising a fan mechanism
2 and a pair of conveying tubes that pass at least partially internally in at least one of the
3 containers for delivering air to each of the first and second metering mechanisms.

- 1 14. (New) The planter implement of Claim 9, wherein the first and second
2 containers define a double v-shaped configuration to facilitate movement of the
3 particulate material into the auger for conveyance of the particulate material to the
4 respective first and second metering mechanisms.
- 1 15. (New) The planter implement of Claim 9, wherein the troughs are located in a
2 lower apex of each of the v-shaped configurations, each of the troughs having an auger
3 rotatably mounted therein for transporting the particulate material along the floor to the
4 respective first and second metering mechanisms.
- 1 16. (New) The planter implement of Claim 9, wherein at least one of the first and
2 second metering mechanisms includes a sensor, and wherein initiation of the motor
3 occurs when the sensor detects a shortage of the particulate material to be dispensed
4 through the respective first or second metering mechanisms.
- 1 17. (New) The planter implement of Claim 9, wherein each of the containers
2 includes an optical sensor to detect a level of particulate material within the respective
3 first and second containers, and wherein initiation of the motor and subsequent rotation
4 of the corresponding augers occurs when one of the optical sensors detects a decreased
5 level of the particulate material in the container.

1 18. (New) A method of conveying particulate material for distribution in the
2 ground, the method comprising the steps of:
3 conveying a first particulate material in a first container with a first auger along
4 a first trough incorporated into a bottom floor of the first container and in a direction
5 towards a first metering mechanism,
6 conveying the second particulate material in a second container with a second
7 auger along a second trough incorporated into a bottom floor of the second container
8 and in a direction towards a second metering mechanism, the first metering mechanism
9 located adjacent to the second metering mechanism; and
10 delivering the first and second particulate material for distribution to the ground.

1 19. (New) The method as recited in Claim 18, further including the steps of;
2 sensing a lowered torque of the first auger; and
3 initiating a motor to drive rotation of the first auger in response to the sensed
4 lowered torque of the first auger.

1 20. (New) The method as recited in Claim 18, further including the steps of:
2 detecting a shortage of particulate material to be dispensed by the first metering
3 mechanism; and
4 initiating a motor to drive rotation of the first auger to convey the first
5 particulate material in the first container to the first metering mechanism in response to
6 detecting the shortage of the particulate material.